

Even worse, failure to enact this legislation will harm our efforts to attract our best and brightest young people to the armed services.

The Department of Defense has identified the Montgomery GI bill as its best available recruitment tool.

Mr. President, just over fifty years ago, in 1945, tens of thousands of American servicemen returned home from defeating totalitarian aggression around the globe.

Because Congress had enacted the original GI bill a year earlier, they arrived with the assurance that the federal government would reward their brave defense of freedom and heroic sacrifice with a chance for a better life.

When Congress passed that first GI bill, it made a covenant with the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our cherished freedom and democracy.

By making it more difficult for veterans to finance higher education once they leave the armed services, current law has undermined that compact.

I am confident that the Veterans Education Benefits Protection Act will help us reaffirm our commitment to these courageous Americans, and give veterans access to the higher education that they so richly deserve.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2278

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Educational Benefits Protection Act of 1998".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Having served their country with honor, veterans of the Armed Forces deserve the Nation's gratitude and support.

(2) Recognizing that education is a key element of economic success and reintegration into civilian life, Congress has for more than 50 years provided aid to veterans seeking postsecondary education.

(3) The escalating costs of postsecondary education make veterans more dependent than ever on veterans' educational benefits.

(4) Recipients of veterans' educational benefits should not be disadvantaged with respect to any other recipients of Federal educational aid programs.

#### SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS.

Section 480(j)(3) (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(j)(3)) is amended by inserting after "paragraph (1)," the following: "a post-service benefit under chapter 30 of title 38, United States Code, or".

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1089

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to terminate the effectiveness of certain amend-

ments to the foreign repair station rules of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1147

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1147, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for nondiscriminatory coverage for substance abuse treatment services under private group and individual health coverage.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. GLENN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of low-income housing credits which may be allocated in each State, and to index such amount for inflation.

S. 1578

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1578, a bill to make available on the Internet, for purposes of access and retrieval by the public, certain information available through the Congressional Research Service web site.

S. 1919

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1919, a bill to provide for the energy security of the Nation through encouraging the production of domestic oil and gas resources from stripper wells on federal lands, and for other purposes.

S. 1920

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1920, a bill to improve the administration of oil and gas leases on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

S. 2007

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2007, a bill to amend the false claims provisions of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code.

S. 2078

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2078, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for Farm and Ranch Risk Management Accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 2091

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. FAIRCLOTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2091, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure medicare reimbursement for certain ambulance services, and to improve the efficiency of the emergency medical system, and for other purposes.

S. 2154

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2154, a bill to promote research to identify and evaluate the health effects of silicone breast implants, and to ensure that women and their doctors receive accurate information about such implants.

S. 2162

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2162, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to more accurately codify the depreciable life of printed wiring board and printed wiring assembly equipment.

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. GLENN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 2162, *supra*.

S. 2170

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2170, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the temporary increase in unemployment tax.

S. 2175

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2175, a bill to safeguard the privacy of certain identification records and name checks, and for other purposes.

S. 2201

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2201, a bill to delay the effective date of the final rule promulgated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network.

S. 2213

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2213, a bill to allow all States to participate in activities under the Education Flexibility Partnership Demonstration Act.

S. 2236

At the request of Mr. GORTON, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2236, a bill to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 95

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 95, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to promoting coverage of individuals under long-term care insurance.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 193

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 193, a resolution designating December 13, 1998, as "National Children's Memorial Day."

## SENATE RESOLUTION 237

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 237, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the situation in Indonesia and East Timor.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 256—RELATIVE TO PRIVATE RELIEF LEGISLATION AND THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

Mr. BINGAMAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

## S. RES. 256

*Resolved*, That (a) S. 2274 entitled "A bill for the relief of Richard M. Barlow of Santa Fe, New Mexico" now pending in the Senate, together with all the accompanying papers, is referred to the chief judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

(b) The chief judge shall—

(1) proceed according to the provisions of sections 1492 and 2509 of title 28, United States Code; and

(2) report back to the Senate, at the earliest practicable date, providing—

(A) such findings of fact and conclusions that are sufficient to inform the Congress of the nature, extent, and character of the claim for compensation referred to in such bill as a legal or equitable claim against the United States or a gratuity; and

(B) the amount, if any, legally or equitably due from the United States to Mr. Richard M. Barlow of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

## PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM ACT OF 1998

## ROBB AMENDMENT NO. 3066

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. ROBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 648) to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation, and for other purposes; as follows:

In section 107(a), after "other than toxic harm" insert the following: "(including any illness caused by exposure to asbestos)".

## DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

### KERREY (AND HAGEL) AMENDMENTS NOS. 3067-3068

Mr. KERREY (for himself and Mr. HAGEL) submitted two amendments in-

tended to be proposed by them to the bill (S. 2168) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

## AMENDMENT NO. 3067

On page 93, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

### SEC. 423. TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COPPER ACTION LEVEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available by this or any other Act for any fiscal year may be used by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to implement or enforce the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper in drinking water promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.), to the extent that the regulations pertain to the public water system treatment requirements related to the copper action level, until—

(1) the Administrator and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention jointly conduct a study to establish a reliable dose-response relationship for the adverse human health effects that may result from exposure to copper in drinking water, that—

(A) includes an analysis of the health effects that may be experienced by groups within the general population (including infants) that are potentially at greater risk of adverse health effects as the result of the exposure;

(B) is conducted in consultation with interested States;

(C) is based on the best available science and supporting studies that are subject to peer review and conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices; and

(D) is completed not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) based on the results of the study and, once peer reviewed and published, the 2 studies of copper in drinking water conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the State of Nebraska and the State of Delaware, the Administrator establishes an action level for the presence of copper in drinking water that protects the public health against reasonably expected adverse effects due to exposure to copper in drinking water.

(b) CURRENT REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this section precludes a State from implementing or enforcing the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper in drinking water promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) that are in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, to the extent that the regulations pertain to the public water system treatment requirements related to the copper action level.

## AMENDMENT NO. 3068

On page 93, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

### SEC. 423. TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COPPER ACTION LEVEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available by this or any other Act for any fiscal year may be used by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to implement or enforce the national primary

drinking water regulations for lead and copper in drinking water promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.), to the extent that the regulations pertain to the public water system treatment requirements related to the copper action level, until—

(1) the Administrator and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention jointly conduct a study to establish a reliable dose-response relationship for the adverse human health effects that may result from exposure to copper in drinking water, that—

(A) includes an analysis of the health effects that may be experienced by groups within the general population (including infants) that are potentially at greater risk of adverse health effects as the result of the exposure;

(B) is conducted in consultation with interested States;

(C) is based on the best available science and supporting studies that are subject to peer review and conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices; and

(D) is completed not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) based on the results of the study and, once peer reviewed and published, the 2 studies of copper in drinking water conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the State of Nebraska and the State of Delaware, the Administrator establishes an action level for the presence of copper in drinking water that protects the public health against reasonably expected adverse effects due to exposure to copper in drinking water.

(b) CURRENT REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this section precludes a State from implementing or enforcing the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper in drinking water promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) that are in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, to the extent that the regulations pertain to the public water system treatment requirements related to the copper action level.

## PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM ACT OF 1998

### TORRICELLI (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3069

(Ordered to lie on the table)

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 648, supra; as follows:

In section 101, after paragraph (9), insert the following:

(9A) FIREARM.—The term "firearm"—

(A) has the meaning given that term in section 921(3) of title 18, United States Code; and

(B) includes any firearm included under the definition of that term under section 5845 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

In the heading of section 102(a)(2)(B), strike "NEGLIGENCE PER SE CONCERNING FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION".

In section 102(a)(2)(B), strike clause (ii) and redesignate clause (iii) as clause (ii).